2018 Ohio Standards for Principals Development Timeline

In 2016, Ohio's superintendent of public instruction directed the Ohio Department of Education to identify building principals across Ohio that it should invite to take part in a community of practice. The Department asked the Ohio Association of Elementary School Administrators and Ohio Association of Secondary School Administrators to be its partners in the search. This principals workgroup examined what Ohio could do to better support high-quality leadership practices that help building principals improve their impact on each student they serve.

The principals met during a three-month period to evaluate supports available to Ohio principals. The report "Strengthening Educational Leaders Supports" outlines the group's findings.

The report identified gaps and viable solutions to close them in three areas: principal preparation programs, Ohio Department of Education practices, and partnerships between districts, organizations and state agencies. One recommendation urged the Department to "review, update, and revise principal standards to make them more precise and concise." The recommendation included redefining principalship by making the principal standards better reflect the roles and responsibilities of today's principals, including equity and social justice.

To begin the revision process, the Department brought together a standards writing team. The team met over a six-month period during the 2017-2018 school year. The writing team composed the standards and the Department then sought public comment. A third-party facilitator worked with Department leaders to make the revisions suggested in many of those public comments.

The State Board of Education approved the revised Ohio Standards for Principals in spring 2018.

